

Last updated June 10, 2003

Q: I was funded under Phase I of the DARPA FDR program. If I were to secure funding for Phase II under BAA03-29, would this be a new contract or a mod to the existing contract. I am building a proposal now and need this info for my contracts people.

A: It would be a new contract.

Q: Page 9 of the Proposer Information Pamphlet (PIP) identifies a Schedule and Milestones Chart. For purposes of proposal submission, can these dates and milestones be interpreted as flexible? What happens if I submit a proposal that does not comply with the schedule delineated? Will I be considered non-responsive?

A: While the overall schedule is subject to adjustment based on the actual commencement date of any contract/grant/agreement award, bidders are cautioned that the schedule should be interpreted as currently being fixed with limited room for schedule slippage. In particular, those diamonds that are SOLID, or as represented by the color RED, are considered critical GO/NO GO decision criteria that the government may use to judge whether to continue funding any effort proposed. While the government may not necessarily judge a proposal as non-responsive due to proposed schedule changes, the government strongly encourages bidders to follow the schedule as delineated in the PIP, subject to adjustment ONLY based on the actual anticipated date of any award.

Q: How do we use the information about estimates of availability of funding as a function of fiscal year to estimate our levels of effort?

A: It is estimated that, in all 3 topic areas, the FY03 funding should cover about 6 months. The FY04 dollars should cover the next 12 months of funding. The FY05 dollars should cover the next 12 months of funding. The FY06 dollars should cover 9 mos of funding for topic areas 2 and 3.

Note that all funding values are estimates provided to help offerors scope their levels of effort. All funding is subject to approval from the Director of DARPA.

Q: How many awards does DARPA anticipate making in each topic area?

A: The number of awards will depend upon the quality of the proposals and the amount of funding available. Given the limited amount of funding, however, it is strongly advised that potential offerors assemble as strong a team as possible in the event that only one award is made in each topic area.

Q: Do you want one proposal from a very big team (consisting of a DNS person, an LES person, a RANS person, and a small-scale experimentalist), or can the members of the "team" submit "individual" proposals (as long as the teaming arrangement is outlined in the individual proposals)?

A: The offeror is free to decide the structure of the team. Please note that the teaming structure is an important part of the proposal. See Section 4.2.5.1: “Team”, and Section 5.2.3: “Soundness of Offeror’s Technical and Management Approach, Including Teaming”.

Q: Should all modeling effort be geared towards RANS, or would you entertain other multi-scale approaches (such as LES) as the end-product, as long it can be shown that it can compute flows with $Re \sim 10^8$?

A: Any approach that will lead to *physics-based predictive* modeling at $Re > 10^8$ will be considered. RANS is a suggested but not required approach. Offerors are advised to provide a strong case as to why they would expect their approach to be able to predictively model flows at $Re > 10^8$.

Q: Are the Reynolds numbers you are quoting in the BAA based on the plate length (Re_L) or based on the boundary layer thickness (Re_{δ})?

A: Plate length.